

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. The amendments to claim 1 introduce no new matter. A Notice of Allowance was mailed on September 13, 2005. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statements with Forms PTO-1449 were filed in the above-captioned patent application on August 2, 2005 and September 7, 2005. Applicants have not yet received from the Examiner a copy of the Forms PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Forms PTO-1449.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:DAT

Date: October 31, 2005

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